

TNF-RELATED PROTEINS

Abstract

A member of the tumor necrosis factor family and its receptor are
5 described. This member is primarily expressed in B cells and its expression
correlates to increases in the number of B cells and immunoglobulins
produced. The natural, preferred human ortholog is here called AGP-3R .
The protein is a type III transmembrane protein and has an amino
terminal extracellular domain, a transmembrane domain, and a carboxy
10 terminal intracellular domain. AGP-3R-related proteins of the invention
may be membrane-associated or in soluble form, recombinantly produced
or isolated after natural production. The invention provides for nucleic
acids encoding such AGP-3R-related proteins, vectors and host cells
expressing the polypeptides, and methods for producing recombinant
15 proteins. Antibodies or fragments thereof that specifically bind the
proteins are also provided.